

Message Text

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ACTION HEW-04

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4044

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, GW

SUBJECT: PROPOSED US-FRG SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENT

REF: (A) STATE 255262; (B) BONN 17342

1. THE EMBASSY APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT ACCEPTANCE OF REVISION ARTICLE 3(A) AS STATED IN PARAS 2 AND 3 OF REFTEL (B).

2. LABOR MINISTRY HAS INFORMED US THAT GERMAN LANGUAGE TEXT APPROVED BY LABOR MINISTRY AND FOREIGN OFFICE WILL BE COMPLETED DURING WEEK NOVEMBER 3-7 AND WE WILL POUCH IT SOONEST.

3. LABOR ATTACHE DISCUSSED WITH LABOR MINISTER ARENDT DEPARTMENT AND HEW'S DESIRE TO HAVE HIM RESCHEDULE HIS VISIT TO THE US FOR SIGNING CEREMONY AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. ARENDT ALSO WAS INFORMED THAT THE DEPARTMENT ALREADY HAS ISSUED AUTHORITY FOR HEW SECRETARY MATTHEWS TO SIGN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE US.

ARENDT INDICATED THAT HE HAS A VERY FULL SCHEDULE FOR THE REST OF 1975 AND THE PRE-ELECTION PERIOD IN 1976 INVOLVING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE BUNDESTAG ON PRIORITY LABOR LEGISLATION AND HIS ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE 1976 FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN WHICH STARTED
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RECENTLY. ARENDT SAID THAT THE ONLY TIME HE COULD

TRAVEL TO THE US WOULD BE SHORTLY AFTER THE HOLIDAY SEASON FROM JANUARY 6-11, 1976. HE SAID HE COULD PLAN TENTATIVELY TO LEAVE GERMANY ON JANUARY 6 AND BE AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY FOR THE SIGNING CEREMONY AND OTHER CONSULTATIONS.

4. FOLLOWING UP ON HIS OCTOBER 30 CONVERSATION WITH AFL-CIO EUROPEAN REPRESENTATIVE IRVING BROWN, ARENDT WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MEET AND CONSULT WITH SECRETARY OF LABOR DUNLOP AND AFL-CIO PRESIDENT MEANY ON THE ILO AND OTHER LABOR PROBLEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST DURING THIS VISIT. ARENDT AND BROWN MADE TENTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF ILO PROBLEMS BEFORE ARENDT LEAVES FOR THE US.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THE ABOVE DATES SUGGESTED BY MINISTER ARENDT. (B) IF DATES ARE ACCEPTABLE, REQUEST THAT SECRETARY MATTHEWS INVITATION TO ARENDT BE FORWARDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO CONFIRM THE INVITATION. (C) REQUEST THAT ARRANGEMENTS BE MADE FOR TALKS WITH SECRETARY OF LABOR DUNLOP AND AFL-CIO PRESIDENT MEANY TO FOLLOW UP ON ARENDT'S INTEREST IN TALKS WITH THEM DURING THIS VISIT. (D) WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED ON THE PREPARATIONS AND PROGRAM FOR ARENDT'S VISIT.
HILLENBRAND

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